INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No PCT/IB 03/05460

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 B29C39/00 C08C B81B3/00 C08J5/18 B81C1/00 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 B81B Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC, COMPENDEX C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages 1-8 US 6 236 491 B1 (GOODWIN-JOHANSSON SCOTT Y HALDEN) 22 May 2001 (2001-05-22) abstract claim 13 column 5, line 44 - column 7, line 49 1-8 Υ US 6 423 260 B1 (ULLETT JILL S ET AL) 23 July 2002 (2002-07-23) column 2, line 31 - column 3, line 11 column 9, line 1 - column 10, line 52 figures 9,12; tables 2,4 1 Α US 6 137 623 A (RINNE GLENN A ET AL) 24 October 2000 (2000-10-24) cited in the application abstract column 7, line 3 - column 8, line 63 figures 2A,2B Patent family members are listed in annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. ŀΧI Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is clied to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. other means document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed . "&" document member of the same patent family Date of mailing of the International search report Date of the actual completion of the International search 01/12/2004 24 November 2004 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni, Meister, M Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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